

the Cubes of the apertures of the Object-Glasses; and thence to make Telescopes of various lengths, magnify with equal distinctness, the apertures of the Object-Glasses, and the Charges or magnifying Powers, ought to be as the Cubes of the square Roots of their lengths; which doth not answer to Experience. But the errors of the Rays arising from the different refrangibility, are as the apertures of the Object-Glasses, and thence to make Telescopes of various lengths, magnify with equal distinctness, their apertures and charges ought to be as the square Roots of their lengths; and this answers to experience as is well known. For instance, a Telescope of 64 Feet in length, with an aperture of $2\frac{2}{3}$ Inches, magnifies about 120 times, with as much distinctness as one of a Foot in length, with $\frac{1}{3}$ of an Inch aperture, magnifies 15 times.

Now were it not for this different refrangibility of Rays, Telescopes might be brought to a greater Perfection than we have yet described, by composing the Object-Glass of two Glasses with Water between them. Let ADFC represent the Object-Glass composed of two Glasses ABED and BEFC, alike convex on the outsides AGD and CHF, and alike concave on the insides BME, BNE, with Water in the concavity BMEN. Let the Sine of Incidence out of Glass into Air be as I to R and out of Water into Air as K to R, and by consequence out of Glass into Water, as I to K: and let the Diameter of the Sphere to which the convex sides AGD and CHF are ground be D, and the Diameter of the Sphere to which the concave sides BME and BNE are ground be to D, as the Cube Root of KK—KI to the Cube Root of RK—RI: and the Refractions on the concave sides of the Glasses, will very much correct the Errors of the Refractions on the convex sides, so far as they arise from the sphericalness of the Figure. And by this means might

Fig. 28.

might Telescopes be brought to sufficient perfection, were it not for the different refrangibility of several sorts of Rays. But by reason of this different refrangibility, I do not yet see any other means of improving Telescopes by Refractions alone than that of increasing their lengths, for which end the late contrivance of *Hugenius* seems well accommodated. For very long Tubes are cumbersome, and scarce to be readily managed, and by reason of their length are very apt to bend, and shake by bending so as to cause a continual trembling in the Objects, whereby it becomes difficult to see them distinctly: whereas by his contrivance the Glasses are readily manageable, and the Object-Glass being fixt upon a strong upright Pole becomes more steady.

Seeing therefore the improvement of Telescopes of given lengths by Refractions is desperate; I contrived heretofore a Perspective by reflexion, using instead of an Object Glass a concave Metal. The diameter of the Sphere to which the Metal was ground concave was about 25 English Inches, and by consequence the length of the Instrument about six Inches and a quarter. The Eye-Glass was plano-convex, and the Diameter of the Sphere to which the convex side was ground was about $\frac{1}{3}$ of an Inch, or a little less, and by consequence it magnified between 30 and 40 times. By another way of measuring I found that it magnified about 35 times. The Concave Metal bore an aperture of an Inch and a third part; but the aperture was limited not by an opaque Circle, covering the Limb of the Metal round about, but by an opaque circle placed between the Eye-Glass and the Eye, and perforated in the middle with a little round hole for the Rays to pass through to the Eye. For this Circle by being placed here, stopt much of the erroneous Light, which otherwise would have disturbed the Vision. By comparing it with a pretty good Perspective of four Feet in

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length,